

Submitted by:

TOWN OF PHIPPSBURG
SELECTMEN'S MEETING

Approved by Selectmen:

John M. Young
Administrator

MINUTES
May 28, 2008

Meeting convened at 6:00 p.m. with Selectmen Pye, Douglass and Perkins in attendance.

I. Review and Sign:

1. Accounts payable and payroll warrants.
2. Meeting Minutes
3. Annual Assessing Agent contract

All items reviewed and signed

II. Meetings and Hearings:

1. Meet with the Road Commissioner, Chair of the Road Committee and Pine Tree Engineering to discuss the Parker Head Corner rebuild project.

A preliminary meeting between Curtis Doughty (Road Commissioner), Les Smith (Chair of the Road Committee) and Rob Prue (Pine Tree Engineering) had been held on Monday. They briefed the Selectmen on their recommendations.

It was determined that the project would be put out to bid because the town's road crew would not have the time to complete the construction. The project would take 6 to 8 weeks and the road section would be closed for through traffic for a 2 week period. The bid would go out the end of July. CMP may have to move one pole and the old pavement may be reused which will be determined after a bore testing. A public informational meeting will be scheduled for June 25th and the Town Administrator will send out a mailing to those who live in that area of Parker Head Road.

2. Meet with the Historic Preservation Commission to discuss disposal of the Murphy House.

The Commission reported that that the Murphy House has been moved off the trailer. Merry Chapin, member of the Historic Preservation Commission, thanked George Bowker and Warren Doughty Jr. for helping with this task. She reported that an anonymous donor wants to take responsibility for the building which includes stabilizing and moving it.

Many locations to place the building were discussed including property owned by The Nature Conservancy and the Town's Transfer Station. Many building uses were discussed including using it for affordable housing or as a "thrift shop" at the Transfer Station.

Selectman Douglass asked what the Preservation Commission's recommendation for the building was and Orman Hines, Chair, replied that the building should be demolished and the demolition permit process should

be started tomorrow.

The Selectmen voted (3-0) to proceed with the demolition permit process which would take up to 45 days. If the Commission can come up with a concrete plan including restoration funding, final location of the building, and liability coverage, within the 45 days then the issue will be revisited. Other wise the building will be demolished.

Selectmen also voted (3-0) to reimburse Warren Doughty Sr. \$500.00 from the selectmen's contingency fund for the use of his trailer over the past several years.

III. Unfinished Business

1. Transfer Station expansion plans

Selectman Douglass asked the Town Administrator to have Pine Tree Engineering provide an estimated cost for the Transfer Station expansion.

IV. New Business

1. Discuss nominations for the MMA Committees

Selectman Douglass stated that he was interested in being nominated to the MMA Legislative Committee but not the Executive Board. He will contact Pam Hile, West Bath Administrator, who has served on the LPC for more information on the time commitment. He will make his final decision at a later meeting.

2. Discuss conducting an alternative energy survey.

Selectman Douglass stated that he wants to research alternative energy sources for the town buildings and perhaps have an energy audit completed. Also, he is interested in having a company survey the town owned lands to see if they are viable for the construction of alternative energy sources such as solar panels or windmills. He specifically mentioned the landfill cap and the Administrator will check with DEP on this. The survey funding would come from the consulting account. Marie Varian added that there was already a windmill in town.

Selectmen voted (3-0) to investigate the possibility of conducting an alternative energy survey. The Town Administrator will contact MMA to see if they have a recommendation and Selectman Douglass will contact some of the other municipalities that have conducted surveys to see who they used.

V. Selectmen/Administrator Comments and Announcements

1. Administrator Young

Announced upcoming meetings and events.

2. Selectman Pye

Gave a report from the Affordable Housing Committee (private committee whose membership includes himself, Merry Chapin, Frank Roberts, Mark Wilson, and Cyndy Carney).

VI. Public Forum

1. Linwood Stockwell

Mr. Stockwell, Deputy 911 Addressing Officer, reported that the biggest part of his job so far has been maintaining and replacing road signs. This year the Town went over budget replacing signs and had to increase the funding request for next year. If the public sees a sign missing please call the Town Office or if they come across one alongside the road please give the Town Office a call or drop the sign by. If a person is tempted to fool around with a sign please don't - it can cost up to \$50.00 to replace a sign (not including the time involved) and a missing sign can effect emergency response time. The signs also aid delivery companies and visitors.

Selectman Douglass added that if someone has signs in their possession to please drop them off at the Town Office – no questions asked. Otherwise, if they get caught with the signs they will be prosecuted.

2. Ashley Thayer

Ms. Thayer asked about the effect on Lady Slipper should they be transplanted. Selectman Douglas replied that they are very delicate and don't transplant well and are very particular about soil. More information can be obtained from Jo Schumann, Conservation Commission.

3. Gary Morong

Mr. Morong recommended that the Selectmen look at the Murphy House.

VII. Adjournment - Selectmen voted (3-0) to adjourn at 6:53 p.m.